

Approved For Release 2001/03/05 : CIA-RDP82-00457R00260001-9

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INFORMATION

CD NO.

COUNTRY Brazil

SUBJECT Presidential Aspirants

PLACE 25X1A
ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO.

25X1C

DATE DISTR. 22 APR 1949

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. There is little doubt that Oswaldo Aranha will be posted as a candidate for the presidency. He is believed to have a good chance of winning the election. Brigadeiro Eduardo Gomes, who has decided not to enter the race, has indicated that he will support Aranha. An intensive campaign in favor of Aranha is expected to start soon throughout Brazil.
2. Nereu Ramos, Vice President of Brazil, reportedly believes that he has the best chances of winning the election if he can rely on the support of Getulio Vargas. Ramos, however, has encountered opposition in his attempt to secure Vargas' support, since the latter's followers insist that they will put him up as a candidate whether he wishes it or not.
3. It is expected that Vargas' candidacy will be announced by August at the latest.* His friends within the armed forces have been questioning their colleagues of the rank of colonel and below in an attempt to ascertain their reactions to the election of Vargas. When Vargas announces his candidacy, a number of other presidential candidates are expected to join forces and support one of their number to run against him.
4. Adhemar de Barros, Governor of the State of Sao Paulo, is planning to transform his party, Partido Social Progressista (PSP-Social Progressive Party), into a Progressive Socialist Union with the hope of attracting the support of dissident members of all the Brazilian parties. Barros, who is aware of the fact that the northern states consider themselves neglected by the present government, has also approached leaders and politicians in those states with the offer of substantial federal aid in the event that he wins the election. The Governor of Piaui and the Prefect of Fortaleza are two of Barros' northern contacts. The Prefect of Fortaleza is expected to be named the unofficial political boss for Barros in the north.

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment. *Vargas is said to have secured the support of the cattle raisers in Rio Grande do Sul by promising them support against foreign meat-packing houses. He also favors a nationalized meat-packing industry which would pay the ranchers prices they consider suitable.

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Next Review Date: 2008

Document No.

NO CHANGE in Class

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Class. CHANGED TO:

DDA Memo - 4 APR 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763

0457R00260852008-2

Approved For Release 2001/03/05 : CIA-RDP82-00457R000260052000-8